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**RICHMOND HILL FAIR CENTENARY**

This year Richmond Hill Fair will observe its one hundredth birthday, and offices and members of the Agricultural Society are already busy on plans to make the big event on May 24th a memorable occasion in the life of the district.

Richmond Hill Agricultural Society founded in 1849 has a long record of outstanding service to the community. Fair Day has long been an institution in Richmond Hill and since away back when people from the whole countryside drove in with horse-drawn vehicles to the present day of the motor car Victoria Day has been the occasion for a sort of old Boys' re-union as well as an Agricultural Exhibition.

The Agricultural Society served the community well by staging this annual attraction, but in addition it has carried on a fine work in encouraging the best in livestock and Agricultural production. In addition to the annual fair it has from time to time sponsored field crop, seed and farm home competitions which have made a worthwhile contribution to the life of the County.

Down through the years public spirited men from village and surrounding country have joined together in carrying on the work of this organization. That the fair has carried on through good times and times not so good is a tribute to the fine type of direction and leadership provided by these men.

An Agricultural Fair one hundred years old is really something to be proud of, as few Societies in Ontario can boast such a long record of continuous service. Let's all get behind the 1949 Centenary Fair and make it a really outstanding event.

**A STRONG TOWN**

A town is only as strong as its individual citizens; only as modern and progressive as its citizens care to make it. It can only progress as its citizens allow it to.

How strong is any town? A strong town is made up of people who are civic-minded; people who get out and vote at election time; people who support town organizations and, if a worthwhile organization gets into difficulties, attempt to keep it going rather than let it fall by the wayside. Its people not only take an interest in the town, but are willing to go out of their way to further the town's interests. Its peoples are working people, business men, professional men, housewives. But regardless of what the individual is or what he does for a living, if he is a worthwhile citizen he will take an interest in the town and try to make it a better place in which to live.

The people and organizations in any town may be likened to the divisions on a yardstick. The individual members of the organization may be likened to the fractions of an inch, the individual organizations to the inches, and the town to the sum total of these inches. One person's work may not make or break the town, but when everyone does his share the result will show in attractive homes, better recreational facilities, up-to-date town utilities and a competent town council.

In our own Winchester, may be found some examples of such work — the new Memorial Hospital, the Arena, the desire for better educational facilities and the support to charitable and social welfare drives. These are the things which show a town's aggressiveness, its desire for better things.

But there are other people in the town, too, besides these progressive ones; people who obtain their living in Winchester but who don't wish to return anything to the town. These are merely residents; the others — citizens. Perhaps they serve a useful purpose as critics of the work done by citizens, but by themselves they do little.

Winchester has a large number of citizens, judging from the things they have accomplished in making the town a better place in which to live. Every town has its residents. Let's be thankful the large majority of its people are citizens.

— Winchester Press

**EFFICIENT FARM METHODS**

A new year is upon us and farmers who conduct their business by the calendar year are now closing their books, taking inventory and preparing a cropping plan for 1949.

Actually the farmer, who during the year has ploughed, seeded, harvested, and then turned the products of his field into milk, bacon, eggs, wool, has done a magnificent job. It is nevertheless wise and important to pause for a moment and glance back at the success obtained and the losses sustained. Each farmer should therefore take inventory of what he possesses study his revenues and expenditures and establish which branches of his farm operations are profitable and which could be improved.

Using information obtained on his own farm, the farmer — to a certain extent — is able to make necessary changes in his organization. On some farms, as an example, the books may show that it would be better to get rid of a couple of cows and replace them with a sow. On others, because of the topography of the farm and its location, it would be better to add five or six ewes. The records may indicate other desirable changes.

When final decisions have been reached, the next question is to calculate the amount of roughage and grain necessary to feed the herd, and then to prepare a cropping plan for the year to come. Determine what crops to grow and the acreage required for each crop, taking into consideration the condition of the soil and choosing for each crop the field best suited to it.

After the cropping plan is prepared, lay out a plan so that necessary amounts of manure will be placed in each field according to the crop to be grown. This is also a good time to decide how much commercial fertilizer will be needed so that an order may be placed for delivery in the spring.

The preparation of a cropping plan and keeping a good set of accounts are two important means at the disposal of the farmer which enable him to carry on his agricultural business in an economical manner by giving each piece of land and each animal a chance for maximum production with a minimum of expense. By taking inventory of the herd and their requirements, by evaluating the productive capacity of the soil, by calculating cost of fertilizer and the amount of labour required, one will not be walking blindly but will know which farm enterprise to expand in an effort to increase the return for labour expended.

— Sherbrooke Telegram.

**INDUSTRIAL PREPAREDNESS**

The announcement that industrial preparedness committees from Canada and the United States are getting together in Washington to thrash out common problems, opens a new field in friendly relations with our southern neighbours.

The most encouraging part of the news is that something concrete has been achieved in correlating the defence preparedness programmes of the two countries. Paralleling the work of the Joint Defence Board it brings back to light the many good points of the Hyde Park Agreement.

The first subjects to be discussed concerning chemicals, explosives and non ferrous metals have already been carefully considered from a Canadian angle by the members of the Canadian Industrial Preparedness Association.

Doubtless stockpiling of strategic materials will play an important part in the discussions. In this phase Canada will contribute in no small measure as we are among the world's leading producers of nickel, uranium and other metals so vital in any national defence program.

With a wide range of topics to be considered it is natural that from these exchange of ideas there will come a desire to foster a standardization of design in manufacturing defence weapons. It is quite probable that in the event of hostilities, Canadian and

American forces will be fighting side by side.

Therefore, it would be a stupid and wasteful thing for both sides to be maintaining supply depots containing weapons, ammunition and spare parts of a different size not interchangeable between the two forces.

While primarily the discussions will cover matters concerning methods of preparing industry for national defence, nevertheless with top flight industrialists of both countries sitting across a common board, it is natural to forecast that great benefits will also derive from these talks that will have a bearing on our way of life in peace time. To standardize a tank tread is only one step away from standardizing the treads of farmtractors.

In discussions such as will take place in Washington, Canada will have no need to feel inferior when confronted with the manufacturing might of our next door friend. We have much to contribute in "know how" that more than makes up for our lack of mass production facilities.

The defence of the North country is bound to play a very large part in North American defence plans. There, our knowledge of conditions and terrain, plus manoeuvrability by snowmobiles and off the road vehicles, of which we are well informed, will be an important factor.

The results of these exchanges of ideas will be watched with interest throughout the world. It fosters the thought that similar discussions might well take place between Canada, the United Kingdom and other members of the Commonwealth. Canada can feel proud of the vigorous and leading role she is playing in industrial preparedness.

**R.H.H.S. Sport Slants**

(By Keith Teetzel)

On Tuesday, January 25, the senior and junior boys' basketball teams left R.H.H.S. for Newmarket for a contest with the lads of that town. Both Richmond Hill teams won, the seniors by a score of 42-1 and the juniors 23-18.

On Monday, January 31, the third game of the series was played at the local High School with Pickering College as the opposing teams. Again both R.H.H.S. teams emerged victorious. The score was 31-12 for the seniors and 30-11 for the juniors. Sandy Neal, captain of the senior team sparked his team to victory by scoring 8 of their points. Gordon Burbridge was the star of the junior game scoring 11 points.

Our teams have played three games and won three. As there are only three games left to play, Richmond Hill will come out on top of the league if they continue their winning streak. The next game is at Aurora and any support that could be given to the players would be much appreciated. The winners of the North York Championship will compete in the C.O.S.S.A. playdowns in March.

**GUILD GOSSIP**

By Glad McLatchy

"Oil for Canada," proved to be one of the most interesting and educational pictures that the Guild has yet been privileged to see and as no samples of the Russian variety were distributed, we all maintained our own sweet nationality, and chairs too, when we were informed that the production cost of the picture was around the oily sum of forty thousand dollars. Whew! we'd even enjoy a picture on Castor oil for that amount.

"Salmon Run," was a very exciting and fascinating picture too, but we didn't know that Salmon were interested in marathons, but seeing is believing.

"Trip to Jasper," what a trip, those lakes like mirrors framed in majestic mountain grandeur, those hot springs, how inviting they were and that stay at Jasper Lodge just made the trip perfect.

Those sing songs were stimulating too, especially when we sang about the more we are together with a rock a bye baby and one more river to cross. Which reminds me to remind you that your next date is at the United Church on Monday, February 7th, and the following night at your own quarters to see how super salads are made by an expert, Mrs. H. H. MacKay (Elsie for short).

It is an open night so invite someone to enjoy the evening with you.

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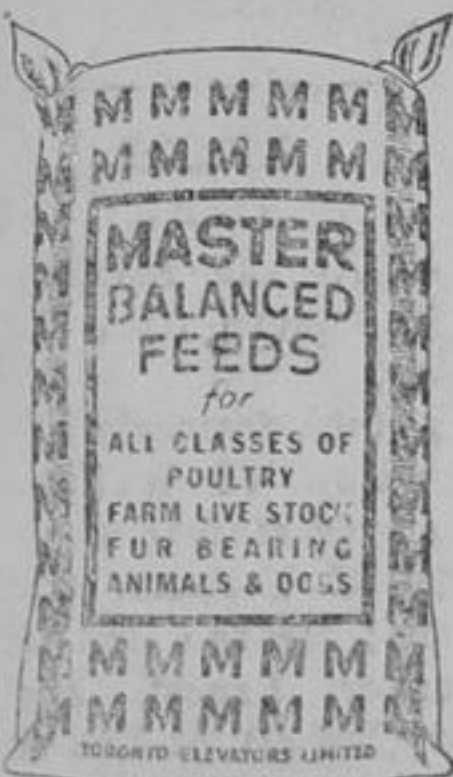
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